

## PSC MAAPP Policy Guidelines

In April 2019, USA Swimming adopted the Minor Athlete Abuse Protection Policy (MAAPP) in order to prevent the abuse of a minor from an “Applicable Adult.” LEARN TO SWIM FAMILIES – please know that your insurance is through USA Swimming so this applies to you as well.

About two weeks ago, PSC began making the necessary changes in order to comply with the new policy that takes effect June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

While much of the policy requires internal updates and staff requirements for credentials, there are a few items that effect the whole membership that you need to be educated on.

First, the full document from USA Swimming Safe Sport is attached. You should read it and understand it. It is all USA Swimming Members, and their legal guardians’ responsibility to understand the policy.

For the document and this email MINOR = CHILD/CHILDERN/KID.

I have attached a quick guide with points that I thought were relevant to families. While not the whole scope or the whole policy, they were the things that I thought people would want to know.

PLEASE VISIT <https://www.usaswimming.org/utility/landing-pages/minor-athlete-abuse-prevention-policy> to find out how to voice a complaint.

Items that take effect as of 6/23/19:

1. Any athlete 18 years or older MUST TAKE THE ATHLETE PROTECTION TRAINING. This was only for Coaches, however, now all 17.5 years old athletes and up MUST take the APT training in order to be a USA Swimming member in good standing.
  - a. What happens if I don’t? = Your times swum are invalid, and you can not practice with any USA Swimming Club as your insurance lapses with your voided membership.
2. Everyone must sign that you agree and agree to comply to the MAAPP yearly in writing.
  - a. PSC will have a document that you must sign and return for your minor to swim with us.
  - b. ALL applicable adults must sign one. If you are a diverse family with multiple sets of legal guardians, we will need all of you to sign the forms.
  - c. THEY MUST BE RETAINED BY PSC FOR OUR RECORDS.
3. Any applicable adult that violates the policy is subject to SafeSport reporting and PSC Staff is required to report as a mandatory reporter.
4. CARPOOLS. This is probably the top thing to be aware of as I know we have carpools. **Your minor must always be present in the carpool** from start to finish. Should your minor get out at a friend’s house while mid-carpool, you are then in violation of MAAPP. Honestly, it is not a wise decision these days to place yourself in a situation where you are alone in a car with someone else’s minor anyhow, so this is a life norm if anything at all.
  - a. **Also, PSC now must retain the written consent for all parties that are in any variation of the carpool. Sorry carpool families, you have paperwork to start looking into.**
    - i. I will send those forms out in the next week. USA Swimming was kind enough to supply generic forms that we will use from their site.
5. Locker and Deck areas.

- a. While it is already a requirement to make sure that parents are not on deck, USA Swimming made it VERY CLEAR: YOU ARE NOT TO BE ON DECK, YOU ARE NOT TO BE IN ANY LOCKER AREA FOR ANY REASON.
  - b. LTS Families, we will have to modify the current arrangement to comply. We will attempt to keep some arrangement where you can help your child, however, you can not be in the vicinity of other minors while doing this.
  - c. Failure to comply places us in a situation to report, and remove if necessary.
6. Communications. THIS IS ALSO A MAJOR CHANGE.
- a. If your minor's email is the primary account email on Team Unify, you need to go in and change it so that your email is the primary, and your minor's is the secondary.
  - b. Why? – All communication to a minor must have you copied to comply. This INCLUDES TEXT MESSAGES.
    - i. MANY ATHLETES TEXT US WITH QUESTIONS. I AM TELLING YOU NOW TO TELL THEM TO STOP... NOW!!! Unless you, the guardian, are on the text string, a simple text like "Do we have practice today?" is now non-compliant.
  - c. Why? Part 2 – Communication involving minors must be between the hours of 8AM and 8PM. They defined the time.
    - i. So 9PM emails with meet information that go to an account where only a minor's email is on the account are non-compliant.

I encourage you all to visit the website. (<https://www.usaswimming.org/utility/landing-pages/minor-athlete-abuse-prevention-policy>) I encourage all of you to read all of the documents there.

Thank You-

Rob Robitaille

Head Coach